

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-6 and 8-13 are pending. Claim 7 is cancelled. Claim 14 is added.

Claims 1-6 and 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Applicants respectfully submit that the flange is shown in figures 5-9. Therefore, Applicants are not incorporating new matter.

Claims 1-6 and 8-13 are rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon US Patent Publication 2005003371 by Sommer et al. At the time the claimed invention was made, the Sommer patent and the present application were commonly owned by Medtronic. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Sommer does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c). Withdrawal of the instant rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 13-2546.

Respectfully submitted,

SOMMER ET AL.

November 13, 2006  
Date

/Carol F. Barry/  
Carol F. Barry  
Reg. No. 41,600  
(763) 514-4673  
Customer No. 27581